

Confident He'll Try to Save Flyer

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Power's Kin Meet Soviet Attorney

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By Tom Lambert
From the Herald Tribune Moscow
MOSCOW, Aug. 10.—Frank and Gary Powers' wife and parents conferred today with the U.S. pilot's court-appointed Soviet defense attorney, and the Soviet penalty for espionage parents said later: "We have confidence he will do everything possible to help our son." Mr. Powers is to go on trial here Wednesday on espionage charges.

A spokesman for the pilot's wife said after the meeting with the defense attorney, Mikhail Griniev: "His is a heavy and grave job, but we feel he will give it absolutely the best he has."

The spokesman, Alexander W. Parker, a lawyer of Richmond, Va., who came here with Mrs. Barbara Powers, said an Intourist official has promised to try and obtain an appointment for the Powers family with Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev. The parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver W. Powers, have been trying to get into contact with Mr. Khrushchev through Intourist, the Soviet tourist agency.

The trial is expected to last three days, with sessions each day from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m.

Mr. Powers has been held incommunicado since his high altitude reconnaissance plane was downed on May 1 near Stardlovsk, about 700 miles inside the Soviet Union. The defense attorney, and the Soviet penalty for espionage parents said later: "We have confidence he will do everything possible to help our son." Mr. Powers is to go on trial here Wednesday on espionage charges.

Mr. Parker said the Powers family's one-and-one-half-hour session with Mr. Griniev was "highly satisfactory." Mr. Griniev was a Soviet prosecutor at one of the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

"We had a satisfactory conference with the defense counsel discussing the points of the case," Mr. Parker said. "We were highly impressed with his sincerity, apparent ability, frankness and desire to cooperate."

Neither the flyer's parents, his wife nor their spokesmen would divulge any details of the meeting with Mr. Griniev, other than to say he had seen the U-2 pilot "a few hours earlier."

Asked whether Mr. Griniev had reported how Mr. Powers was and whether he knew his family was here, Mr. Parker said: "We agreed what was said in there (the meeting) was confidential."



Associated Press radiophoto

Power's Soviet attorney—Mikhail Griniev in Moscow yesterday.

identified, and I would not like to violate that confidence." Mr. Parker said the Powers family may meet Mr. Griniev again tomorrow "if his time and the circumstances permit."

Wife Sends Telegram

After the meeting, the younger Mrs. Powers appeared to have been weeping. Mr. Parker said she had not been "felled" by the session, "except as regards having confidence in and being favorably impressed with the defense attorney."

Mr. Parker said that early this morning he sent to her husband a telegram addressed to 2 Dzhiginskaya St., Moscow, where it is understood he is being held.

Mr. Powers' wife and parents now seem to have abandoned their earlier hope of seeing him before the trial, which is to be held by the military collegium of the Soviet Supreme Court in the Hall of Columns here.

The Powers family's meeting with Mr. Griniev—the first Soviet official associated with the trial with whom they have been able to get into contact since they arrived here Saturday—took place in his office on Niglina St., at the Soviet government juridical consultant's headquarters.

The pilot's parents, one of their acquaintances and their attorney and his wife and two lawyers entered the building about 5 p. m. Reporters followed them through a short corridor into Mr. Griniev's office.

Mr. Griniev, seemingly in his

late fifties or early sixties, a stocky little man with a mustache and goatee, scuttled around his desk saying loudly in English: "Please get out of here. This is a private conference." An unidentified Russian repeated this command, also in English. The reporters departed.

Crowd Gathers

By the time the Powers family and their advisers left, one and one-half hours later, a crowd of perhaps 500 Russians had gathered outside the building, having learned that the U-2 pilot's parents and wife were inside. Their arrival here has not been reported by the Moscow press.

As Mr. and Mrs. Powers entered one automobile and the pilot's wife another, the crowd drew closer, curious in the fashion of Russian crowds. One or two persons kicked the tires of one of the cars, a habit with Russians examining automobiles. The crowd was not hostile, although one or two persons muttered and raised their arms.

Although there is considerable public interest in the Soviet Union in the approach of the trial, there has been no concerted propaganda campaign to arouse Soviet citizens' sympathy for the case.

Accounts of the meeting were given later by Mr. Parker and Sol W. Curry. The latter is a Norton, Va., friend of the pilot's parents. Also at the meeting were two other lawyers, Frank W. Rogers, of Norton, Va., and Carl A. McAfee, of Norton. Mr. Rogers came here with the pilot's wife and Mr. McAfee with his parents.